

From: ["Brooks, Karl" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=78AC91F4DB6D44F58424B504D5AA3C7D-BROOKS, KARL>](#)  
To: [Hatch](#)  
[Sarah](#)  
CC: [Hague](#)  
["Mark; Thomas"](#)  
[Hattie](#)  
Date: 10/21/2013 1:38:55 PM  
Subject: RE: St. Louis County Executive election

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Ah, all very interesting and helpful. Tx, Sarah.

Karl Brooks  
Regional Administrator  
EPA Region 7  
913-551-7006

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**From:** Hatch, Sarah  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2013 1:29 PM  
**To:** Brooks, Karl  
**Cc:** Hague, Mark; Thomas, Hattie  
**Subject:** RE: St. Louis County Executive election

Yes there is a primary process, I've pasted a few recent articles to give you some background on the 2014 race

## St. Louis County councilman, pledging to 'clean house,' sets stage for primary duel with Dooley



October 15, 2013 12:15 am • [By Steve Giegerich sgiegerich@post-dispatch.com 314-725-6758](mailto:By Steve Giegerich sgiegerich@post-dispatch.com 314-725-6758)

**CLAYTON** • Pledging to “clean house,” [Democratic St. Louis County Councilman Steve Stenger](#) today will formally mount a challenge to the grip on county power that [Charlie Dooley](#) has held for 10 years.

Stenger, a second-term councilman representing South County, is scheduled to announce his intention to seek the county executive post at an afternoon news conference in downtown Clayton.

He will face Dooley, who last week reiterated that he will seek re-election, in the Democratic primary next August.

Stenger in an interview Monday afternoon called “restoring integrity to St. Louis County government” his top priority.

The lawyer and accountant promised an exhaustive review of county operations if voters elevate him to the executive office in the November 2014 general election.

“We need a top-to-bottom audit of St. Louis County government,” Stenger said, adding that “every vendor, every account and every procurement” will be scrutinized.

Stenger will square off against the head of an executive branch beset by scandal.

Most notably, a developer appointed by Dooley to lead the county police board is currently under investigation by the FBI for allegedly steering a lucrative construction contract to his own company.

The administration has also been called to task for its failure to monitor a top-ranking health department official who killed himself last month as a scheme to bilk the county of millions of dollars came to light.

The county executive has come under additional fire for placing the son of his political benefactor in a county position, hiring a tax collector who was delinquent on her own taxes and neglecting to take the lead in addressing the environmental consequences of problems at a Bridgeton landfill.

Dooley said last week he will stand on a record of economic development that has seen the addition of jobs by [Express Scripts](#) and other corporations despite the recession.

The county executive also intends to emphasize how the region has benefited by infrastructure upgrades to Highway 40 (Interstate 64) and [MetroLink](#) during his tenure.

Stenger however maintains the negatives far outweigh positive aspects of Dooley’s time on the executive floor of the County Office Building.

He is particularly critical of leadership in the [county health department](#).

“The health department is an example of one of the most important services we provide as a county government. And it’s an example of a county government that is simply broken,” Stenger said.

The councilman stressed that Dooley will not be the entire focus of the campaign.

Stenger said he will work to strengthen the new joint economic development pact with the city.

But he stopped short of endorsing a major issue that could dominate the regional conversation in the foreseeable future: a potential city-county merger.

“I’m not a proponent of a shotgun marriage but rather a courtship that will determine the best interest of everyone,” he said.

Based on preliminary calculations, Stenger estimated he will head into the campaign with a war chest of approximately \$500,000, including \$220,000 collected in the last quarter.

[Missouri Ethics Commission](#) campaign finance records show Dooley with \$336,000 on hand in July.

The state will update the amounts held in 2014 campaign coffers today.

Stenger campaign sources say today's announcement will reflect a shift in the county political power structure.

Area labor leaders who have openly broken with Dooley are expected to be in attendance along with representatives of the union representing the [St. Louis County Police Department](#).

Several top county officials, including Prosecutor Robert McCulloch, will likely be on hand.

McCulloch two weeks ago urged the county executive not to seek re-election.

Stenger, 41, is a graduate of Bishop DuBourg High School.

He received an undergraduate degree in business administration with a specialization in accounting from the [University of Missouri-St. Louis](#) and a law degree from [St. Louis University](#).

Stenger and his wife, Ali, have been married 4½ years

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY, Mo. (KSDK)** - A St. Louis County Councilman plans to challenge St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley in the 2014 **election** .



District 6 Councilman Steve Stenger will announce his candidacy Tuesday afternoon, according to a press release. Stenger is in his second term as a county councilman.

Dooley, who has served in the office since 2003, has announced he plans to run in 2014. The primary will be held next August.

**CLAYTON** • Citing a litany of improprieties and mismanagement he contends has damaged Charlie Dooley's ability to lead, St. Louis County Prosecutor Robert McCulloch has informed the county executive he will not support his re-election bid next year.

During an Oct. 1 meeting in the embattled county leader's office, McCulloch also encouraged Dooley to step aside for another candidate.

Both men are Democrats.

"The credibility of St. Louis County government has been destroyed by all of these incidents," McCulloch said in an interview Wednesday with the Post-Dispatch. "He's the chief executive officer and that's the person who bears the responsibility. He disagrees with that and doesn't believe he bears any responsibility."

Apprised of McCulloch's remarks, Dooley lashed out at the prosecutor.

"It is none of Bob McCulloch's business how this county is run," Dooley said of the meeting. "He told me about things he knows nothing about."

McCulloch characterized Dooley's refusal to accept responsibility for a growing list of controversies during the past 18 months as "distressing."

The list McCulloch cited includes the appointment of a county real estate official with a felony conviction for embezzling federal housing funds, the hiring of a tax collector delinquent on her own taxes, the \$3.7 million crime lab contract that has ensnared former police board president Gregory Sansone in an FBI investigation and the top health department administrator who committed suicide last month after it was discovered he'd operated a fake company that collected \$3.4 million from county contracts.

“People are starting to come up to me on the street and ask me what is going on with county government, so it’s beginning to affect everyone who is associated with county government,” said McCulloch. “There has been so much damage to the credibility of St. Louis County government that can’t be repaired by Charlie.”

Dooley brushed aside the criticism, revealing that it was not the first time McCulloch has urged him to abandon a campaign for the county’s top office.

“Bob McCulloch did not want me to run (the first year he sought the office) in 2004 and he told me six months ago he didn’t want me to run,” said Dooley.

The McCulloch disclosure comes on the heels of an announcement that St. Louis area labor organizations will also withhold support for Dooley in 2014.

The county executive shrugged off the loss of the endorsements while vehemently emphasizing his intent to remain in the race.

Neither the labor factions nor McCulloch “knocked on doors for me, anyway,” he said.

McCulloch disputed Dooley’s claims, noting he’d known Dooley when Dooley served as the mayor of Northwoods and supported him in his successful bid that made him the first African-American elected to the County Council, and in previous bids to be county executive.

The prosecutor declined to name a candidate he will endorse next year.

McCulloch himself was mentioned as a possible successor to George “Buzz” Westfall, the longtime county executive who died in office in 2003.

Democratic officials instead tapped Dooley to serve the remainder of Westfall’s term. Dooley won the 2004 special election as well as re-election bids in 2006 and 2010.

McCulloch said he distanced himself from Dooley’s 2014 candidacy with reluctance.

He described the tenor of last week’s conversation as “cordial” and expressed hope the two officials can remain friends despite the political divorce.

That seems unlikely given Dooley’s combative response to McCulloch’s public revelation of the meeting.

“I don’t need a prosecutor to tell me how to do my job,” the county executive said. “I know my job. He should do his job.”

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**From:** Brooks, Karl

**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2013 1:22 PM

**To:** Hatch, Sarah

**Cc:** Hague, Mark; Thomas, Hattie

**Subject:** RE: St. Louis County Executive election

Thx. Is the County Exec a partisan election? Is there a primary process?

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**From:** Hatch, Sarah  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2013 1:18 PM  
**To:** Brooks, Karl  
**Cc:** Hague, Mark; Thomas, Hattie  
**Subject:** FW: St. Louis County Executive election  
**Importance:** High

Karl,  
Charlie Dooley recently announced he will run again in Nov 2014. He was replaced the deceased Executive in 2003, won a special election in 2004, then re-election in 2006 and 2010.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.  
Thanks - Sarah

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**From:** Thomas, Hattie  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2013 1:09 PM  
**To:** Hatch, Sarah  
**Subject:** St. Louis County Executive election  
**Importance:** High

Hi Sarah – Karl is asking about the following:

When is the general election for the St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley?  
Is this there a primary election?

Please copy Mark Hague and me on what you send to Karl. Thanks for your help. – HLT

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